

THE PLATE WAR.

The Allies Preparing to Attack Humaita—Paraguayans Attack at Paso da Patria—Eighty Thousand Brazilian Troops in the Field—Defensive Works of the Paraguayans—Ejército de Terrore in Paraguay—The Difficulty Between Chile and Uruguay—Great Scarcity of Beef Cattle—Intense Heat at Buenos Ayres—101 in the Shade in December, Etc., Etc.

ALLIED PREPARATIONS TO ATTACK HUMAITA. The Allies have concentrated their forces at Corrientes on the boundary of Paraguay, and whence forces can be sent up either the Paraguay river or the Paraná. Recently the Brazilians have been increasing their forces, so that the Allies must now have assembled forty-five thousand men. By agreement President General Mitre is Commander-in-Chief while the Allies occupy the Argentine territory. It is said that by the end of January matters in preparation will be ready for an attack on Fort Humaita. This place has lately been much strengthened. About two hundred guns are in position, chains are placed across the river, and torpedoes are planted near it. President Mitre intends to attack this fort simultaneously by land and water.

THE PARAGUAYAN DEFENSIVE. Across the river Paraná there are two ferries, or fords, where the banks of the river are practicable for teams. These are Paso da Patria and Paso de los Bueyes. At the former the Paraguayans are strongly fortifying and preparing well to dispute the pass. As the other pass is fortified it is likely that President Mitre will choose this one when he is ready. He has ordered the preparation of three hundred canoes, to hold twenty men each, for crossing. By such means the Paraguayans can come over at night and steal cattle and provisions.

GENERAL FLORES, OF URUGUAY, is guarding the Paso da Patria with Brazilian troops; General Cáceres, of Corrientes, is at the city of Corrientes, commanding Argentine forces; General Panero is with the commander-in-chief, two and a half leagues from the city of Corrientes.

PARAGUAYAN ATTACK REPULSED. The most important piece of news by this steamer is that the Paraguayans have again crossed over at the Paso da Patria and attacked the cavalry stationed there under command of General Cáceres. The enemy at first numbered one thousand men, but having been reinforced by five hundred more, they were driven back to the mountains which abound in that section.

A REGION OF TERROR IN PARAGUAY. The last conscription of Paraguay had added to many old men and boys to the army so to induce the belief that, as before, Lopez is in the field. Several prisoners, long incarcerated, have died, it is said, of poison. Many women are held in prison for political offenses, such as expressing opinions adverse to the Paraguayan Government. In short, Lopez has instituted a reign of terror that is too long.

GENERAL URQUIZA'S FORCES. Of Entre Rios, have again dispersed in large numbers. General Mitre has written to him to send on to headquarters all the troops ready for the field, and to punish the delinquents. Already large numbers of officers and men are applying to General Urquiza for pardons. Nine are already being shot or put in prison for desertion. General Urquiza is effectually aiding the Allies by his vigor and discipline. At the outset Paraguay offered him great inducements to join Lopez; but he declined, wisely, as was patriotically. His opposition to the Allies would have prolonged the struggle through years.

SCARCITY OF PROVISIONS AMONG THE ALLIES. The fact that the Paraguayans, in their one hundred and ninety-two days' invasion, swept away every cow and sheep in Corrientes, makes supplies of meat for the army scarce and dear. A few days ago I saw six very splendid geese up ambulant ready for the fry, labelled in large letters, "Argentine Sanitary Commission." A recent fair for that society here—the first of the kind ever held—yielded \$20,000 in silver.

The Allied fleet is made up chiefly of Brazilian vessels. Four or five of the extensive Argentine fleet, "Argentine Sanitary Commission," are present; but she has just bought three fine gunboats from the United States, which, under the South American names of *Fátima*, *Vigilante*, and *Uruguay*, will soon join the fleet. The only existing political question is not war or no war, but the removal of the national capital from Buenos Ayres.

It is expected that Chili will make demands on this Government as she did on Uruguay, for sending out privateers and establishing prize courts; and under this impression yesterday gold increased one-twentieth of one per cent.—not a very destructive rise. The Paraná river is rising—a fact favorable to the rounded Brazilians. The United States has received *Wasp* and *Shamuel* have arrived at Montevideo.

In some parts of the country the grasshoppers are stripping the fields of all green vegetation, leaving the peach stones hanging on the leafless trees, and driving the droves of cattle. Several serious Indian invasions have occurred—some of them within one hundred miles of Buenos Ayres. They are bolder than for years, knowing that our soldiers are away at the war. The wheat harvest is good here, in the most extensive and productive ever known here. Wool, four and a half millions of pounds have been brought to this market. The price is going down, as there is but little competition. The increase of animals this year is set down at ten million of animals. From the East, Juan silver mines eight and a half tons of silver have arrived.

BUNEO AYRES, December 29.—To-day a supplemental mail leaves to overtake the other at Montevideo. I send you the latest news. Two of the seven Brazilian transports grounded in the Paraná river are again floating. That river is covered with small craft, in the river trade, carrying from one to twenty tons, nearly all under foreign flags, chiefly Italian. They are generally manned by their owners, who are mostly unable to read or write, and they are skillful smugglers. They demand all the respect for their flag that is due to an East Indian man. It is a wonder that the system does not occasion ceaseless European wars.

LOPEZ IN A FIGHT PLACE. No warlike movements have occurred, except that the allies are concentrating, and preparing for an invasion of Paraguay. There are rumors of peace; but the allies are pledged to accept no other conditions than the expulsion of Lopez from South America, and the division of the spoils.

Provisions are so scarce in Corrientes that cattle are bought in Entre Rios in great numbers, and driven over to the army. The result is that the price of cattle has advanced so much as to almost suppress the annual killing for the hides, bones, and tallow.

Such large reinforcements are coming from Brazil that the allies are believed to have fifty thousand men within a day's march of the passes of the Paraná.

EIGHTY THOUSAND BRAZILIANS IN THE FIELD. A good authority here estimates the Brazilian forces under arms in the allied service on the

frontier at eighty thousand men. Ten thousand men have arrived at Montevideo during the last two months, and are to be sent to Corrientes. Within the last three days sixteen hundred more have arrived. Eighteen hundred are on the way, and four thousand two hundred are waiting for transports to bring them to the river Plata. I cannot believe that any designs of Brazil have appeared on the surface.

The utmost activity prevails in the province of Entre Rios. General Urquiza is gathering troops with great industry for the allied camp. An order has been issued prohibiting all the frog shops of the rural districts of that province. The same is proposed in this province. Thus we shall have the "Maine law," and without a single temperance society in the country.

Latest advices contradict the report of the French war steamer *Decade* bringing gold from Paraguay for Lopez or any one else. The news by the French steamer yesterday has slightly raised the price of fine wools. During the month of December 17,068 bales of wool and 466 bags have been shipped. About half of the immense quantities went to the United States.

The old blockade-runners *Ames*, *Arkle*, and *Leila* *Bet* have been sold to the Brazilian Steam Packet Company. The heat here is unprecedented, reaching for some days one hundred and two and one hundred and four degrees Fahrenheit in the shade. Yesterday it moderated, and the highest was eighty-nine degrees; to-day seventy-seven degrees.—N. Y. Herald.

Brevet Appointments Confirmed. The following Pennsylvania volunteer officers in the late war, nominated by President Johnson, have been confirmed by the Senate:—

TO BE MAJOR-GENERALS BY SENATE:— Brevet Brigadier-General John I. Gregg, U. S. V., and Colonel of the 6th Pennsylvania Cavalry, for gallant and meritorious services, March 13, 1865.

Brevet Brigadier-General Charles H. T. Coffin, U. S. V., and Colonel 11th Pennsylvania Volunteers, for meritorious services during the war, March 13, 1865.

Brevet Brigadier-General John F. Hartman, U. S. V., for conspicuous gallantry in repulsing and driving back the enemy from the lodgment made on our lines at Fort Sedgwick, Virginia, March 13, 1865.

Brevet Brigadier-General A. L. Pearson, U. S. V., for meritorious services during the war, May 1, 1865.

TO BE BRIGADIER-GENERALS BY SENATE:— Colonel Alexander Cummings, 19th Pennsylvania Cavalry, for meritorious services, April 10, 1865.

Colonel William J. Bolton, 51st Pennsylvania Volunteers, for gallant and meritorious services during the war, March 13, 1865.

Colonel James Carle, 191st Pennsylvania Volunteers, for conspicuous gallantry and meritorious services throughout the war, March 13, 1865.

Colonel Robert C. Cox, 20th Pennsylvania Volunteers, for gallant and meritorious services at Fort Steadman and Sedgwick, Va., April 2, 1865.

Colonel C. W. Diven, 200th Pennsylvania Volunteers, for valuable and meritorious services in front of Petersburg, Va., March 25, 1865.

Colonel Levi A. Dodd, 211th Pennsylvania Volunteers, for gallant and meritorious services in the assault upon the enemy's works in front of Fort Sedgwick, Va., April 2, 1865.

Colonel John Frazer, 140th Pennsylvania Volunteers, for gallant services, March 13, 1865.

Colonel William K. Hartsborn, 190th Pennsylvania Volunteers, for conspicuous gallantry and meritorious services throughout the war, March 13, 1865.

Colonel Henry M. Hoyt, 52d Pennsylvania Volunteers, for gallant and meritorious services, to date from March 12, 1865.

PROSPECTUS OF THE CARSON GOLD MINING COMPANY.

CAPITAL STOCK \$600,000 NUMBER OF SHARES, 50,000 Par Value and Subscription Price, \$10. WORKING CAPITAL, \$50,000.

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SECRETARY AND TREASURER, PRO TEM, J. HOPKINS TARR.

SOLICITOR, WILLIAM L. HIRST, Esq.

DIRECTORS, COLONEL WILLIAM B. THOMAS, CHARLES S. OGDEN, EDWIN MIDDLETON, ALEXANDER J. HARPER, WILLIAM BERGER.

The Land of this Company consists of about 120 Acres, in a fertile county, North Carolina, about 2 1/2 miles from the town of Charlotte.

On this property fifteen shafts or pits have been opened and sunk to various depths, from 10 to 55 feet, demonstrating the existence of three separate veins of ore of about 2 feet in width and about 10 feet apart, converging to a common centre at a depth of about 150 feet, forming one immense mass of vein ore, extending in length through the property more than half a mile.

Having an ore that readily yields \$200 per ton, some estimate can be made of the value of this property. With the present imperfect system of mining, ten tons of this ore can be taken out and refined daily from every shaft opened, at an expense not exceeding \$25 per ton, leaving a net working profit of \$175 for each shaft worked by the Company.

The large working capital reserved will enable the Company at once to procure and erect the best modern machinery for manipulating the ore, by means of which the yield will be increased tenfold.

These mines, which they produce ore richer than those of Colorado or Nevada, have many advantages over them, particularly in an abundance of fuel and cheap labor, and the facility with which they can be worked during the entire year; whilst those of Colorado and Nevada can only be worked during the warm weather.

A test assay of an average specimen of the ore from the Carson Mines was made at the 27th of January of the present year, as will appear from the enclosed certificate of Professors Booth and Garrett, the Assayers of the Philadelphia Mint.

PHILADELPHIA, January 27, 1866. Dear Sir:—We have carefully assayed the sample of ore from the Carson Mine, North Carolina, and find it to yield ten ounces nine pennyweights of pure gold to the ton of ore. Yours, respectfully, BOOTH & GARRETT.

Subscriptions to the Capital Stock will be received at the Office of the Company, No. 407 WALNUT STREET, where samples of the ore may be seen, and full information given.

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